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Cairo Faux Pas

How CIA Aide Upset Diplomacy in Egypt

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This is the story of the American who tipped off Egyptian Ambassador in South Africa President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Allen has become American that Assistant Secretary of State George Allen was bringing him a protest note from this Thursday, Nasser Secretary John Foster Dulles announced Egypt would buy

It also is the story of Ambassador to Egypt Henry A. Byrd—arms from Communist Czechoslovakia in exchange for cotton—and of the part played by an American newspaper account of the message Allen carried to Nasser protesting Egypt's arms deal with the Communists. (Ten months later Nasser admitted he bought the arms "from Russia," adding: "I said from Russia and not from Czechoslovakia.") That same day Dulles had talked in New York about the arms deal, about which he already knew, with Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, but had received no satisfaction.

It is a very different tale from the one told by Nasser the day he announced nationalization of the Universal Suez Canal Company, the move which produced the Suez crisis.

The American involved — a Central Intelligence Agency employee—is no longer in Egypt, patched Allen on two hours' notice to Egypt, giving him a letter pointing out to Nasser the dangers of becoming in-

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